

**HUMAN SERVICES COMMISSION  
MINUTES OF THE MEETING  
JANUARY 9, 2006**

**CALL TO ORDER:** The meeting was called to order by Chairman, Yale Cantor at 6:30 P.M.

**PRESENT:** Yale Cantor, Melinda Ferry, Sue Stack, Hassan Salley, Helen Filloramo, Cindy Heidari, Doris Crayton

**ABSENT:** Sharon Schall

**EXCUSED:** Sandi Orsini

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES:** Motioned ( S. Stack), Seconded ( M. Ferry ), and passed by those present to accept the minutes of the June 1, 2005 meeting.

Motioned ( H. Filloramo), Seconded ( S. Stack) and passed by those present to accept the minutes of the September 12, 2005 meeting.

Motioned ( S. Stack), Seconded ( H. Filloramo) and passed by those present to accept the minutes of the October 3, 2005 meeting.

**DIRECTOR'S REPORT: Elderly Services:** The Medicare Part D Counseling starts up tomorrow at the Hall Memorial Library. Individuals who have ConnPACE and those that are dual recipients of both Medicare and Medicaid are asked to "wait" before signing up or choosing a plan.

The TRIAD Committee will meet on February 8<sup>th</sup> to begin planning for a Spring Senior Safety Day and other projects. "Get the Scoop on Crime" will take place on Sunday, June 11<sup>th</sup> at the Senior Center

The senior center hosted a New Year's Eve Party attended by 40 people. It was enjoyed by everyone. We will do it again next year.

**Youth Services:** The Youth Services Advisory Board and Drug Abuse Prevention Council (DAPC ) will hold joint meetings in 2006.

This will be the last year for ROPE. We are in the planning stages of creating our own outdoor adventure program. We are looking at the Batz's property for some of the activities. We will be speaking with Public Works and UCONN for a student studying landscaping or leisure activities to provide us with some recommendations for this project. This will take several years of planning.

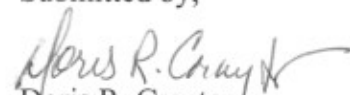
**OLD BUSINESS:** The survey summary was in the Ellington Connection. The tentative date for the public forum is Tuesday, January 31<sup>st</sup> at 7:00 P.M. in the Town Hall Meeting Room. Three members of the Commission are needed to help with the invitations. Complete summary packets should be sent to the Board of Selectmen and Board of Finance. After the presentation the commission will meet with town officials to review recommendations. Local Newspapers will be sent a press release about the public forum. This will be part of the discussion for the February meeting.

**NEW BUSINESS:** The budget proposals are in. Home and Community Care Health Agency is offering a free wellness program for the senior center. Hockanum Valley is seeking a \$3000.00 increase. Other agency increases are \$1000.00 and under. The Tri-Town Shelter wants \$5,000 for 2006-07. There are concerns about the number of Ellington residents served. The Human Service Department has not been able to successfully place anyone in the shelter. The issue has become so great that the Department of Social Services has been notified about it. It is the Human Service Department's contention that the Tri-Town Shelter practices "creaming" A process whereby only the best candidate is chosen to stay in the shelter. The criteria is not based solely on being "homeless". Human Services Commission should consider reducing or eliminating funding to this agency for the new fiscal year.

Hockanum Valley will schedule a Dial -A-Ride will meet the end of the month with Ellington, Tolland, and Vernon to talk about a collaborative grant effort to obtain more funding. There may be possibility of obtaining a mini van through Small Cities Program Funds to purchase a second vehicle for the senior center. Our van has been breaking down more and we have no back up transportation.

**ADJOURNMENT:** Motioned ( S. Stack), Seconded ( H. Filloramo) and passed by all those present to adjourn at 7:30 P.M.

Submitted by,

  
Doris R. Crayton,  
Acting secretary